



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNited States DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,425	07/23/2003	Kazunori Natsume	153A 3433	9184
3713	7590	03/08/2005	EXAMINER	
KODA & ANDROLIA 2029 CENTURY PARK EAST SUITE 1430 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067-3024				SEMBER, THOMAS M
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2875		

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/625,425	NATSUME, KAZUNORI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thomas M. Sember	2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/23/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vukosic. Vukosic discloses a vehicular lamp comprising at least one first LED light source (see figure 3) provided so as to face a rear of said vehicular lamp and reflector 30 that reflects light from said first LED light source forward of said vehicular lamp, said vehicular lamp further comprising at least one second LED light source (see figure 3) that faces a front of said vehicular lamp, said second LED light source being provided near a front side of a circuit board that supports said first LED light.. A transparent cover member (12) is provided near said front side of said second LED light source. The transparent cover member covers the circuit board (34) that supports said second LED. Regarding claim 3, the first and second LEDs are supported by the same circuit board (see figure 3). Regarding claims 4 and 8, the lens 12 is U-shaped in an arrangement direction. Regarding claims 5 and 9, the reflector is divided into two reflecting areas (22 and 24) by a boarder line that extends substantially in the arrangement direction, each reflector area are divided into subreflective surfaces 28 and 30. Regarding claims 6 and 10, the LEDs are alternatively arranged (see figure 4)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-5 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kawashima et al. Kawashima et al discloses a vehicular lamp comprising at least one first LED light source (42 and 43) provided so as to face a rear (as broadly claimed the side of the LEDs face a rear of the lamp) of said vehicular lamp and reflector (82) that reflects light from said first LED light source forward of said vehicular lamp, said vehicular lamp further comprising at least one second LED light source (41) that faces a front of said vehicular lamp, said second LED light source being provided near a front side of a circuit board that supports said first LED light.. A transparent cover member (5) is provided near said front side of said second LED light source. The transparent cover member (5) covers the circuit board (34) that supports said second LED light source and said circuit board that support said first LED light source. Regarding claim 2, the cover (5) has diffusive properties. Regarding claim 3, the first and second LEDs are supported by the same circuit board (see figure 2). Regarding claims 4 and 8, the lens 5 is U-shaped in an arrangement direction. Regarding claims 5 and 9, the reflector

is divided into two reflecting areas (both sides of 82) by a boarder line that extends substantially in the arrangement direction, each reflector area are divided into subreflective surfaces 32f.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vukosic in view of Suckow et al. Vukosic discloses the claimed invention except for the cover being made of diffusive material. Suckow et al teaches a LED warning lamp assembly which includes a cover that can be made out of translucent (diffusive) material (see column 4, lines 48-52). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a diffusive cover as taught by Suckow et al for the cover of Vukosic in order to efficiently spread light to the lamp's surroundings.

Conclusion

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. English et al, Brun and Borner et al disclose lamp assemblies similar to applicant's invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas M. Sember whose telephone number is 571-272-2381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 A.M- 5.30 p.m. first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 703-305-4939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thomas M Sember



THOMAS M. SEMBER
PRIMARY EXAMINER